



**United States
Department of
Agriculture**

**Agricultural
Marketing
Service**

**Fruit and
Vegetable
Division**

**Fresh
Products
Branch**

United States Standards for Grades of Parsnips

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United States Standards for Grades of Parsnips¹

Grades

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Grades

§51.4010 U.S. No. 1.

"U.S. No. 1" consists of parsnips of similar varietal characteristics which are well trimmed, fairly well formed, fairly smooth, fairly clean, fairly firm, free from woodiness, soft rot or wet breakdown, and from damage caused by discoloration, bruises, cuts, rodents, growth cracks, pithiness, disease, insects, mechanical or other means.

(a) **Unless otherwise specified**, the diameter of each parsnip shall be not less than 1-1/2 inches. The maximum diameter of the parsnips in any lot may be specified in terms of inches and quarter inches, in accordance with the facts.

(b) **Tolerances.** In order to allow for variations incident to proper grading and handling, the following tolerances, by weight, are provided as specified.

(1) **For defects.** Ten percent for parsnips in any lot which fail to meet the requirements of this grade, including therein not more than 5 percent for defects causing serious damage, including in this latter amount not more than 1 percent for parsnips affected by soft rot or wet breakdown.

(2) **For size.** Three percent for parsnips in any lot which fail to meet the specified minimum diameter and 10 percent for parsnips which fail to meet any specified maximum diameter.

§51.4011 U.S. No. 2.

"U. S. No. 2" consists of parsnips which are well trimmed, not badly misshapen, free from

¹Packing of the product in conformity with the requirements of these standards shall not excuse failure to comply with the provisions of the Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act or with applicable State laws and regulations.

woodiness, soft rot and wet breakdown, and from serious damage caused by secondary roots, dirt, discoloration, bruises, cuts, rodents, growth cracks, pithiness, wilting, disease, insects, mechanical or other means.

(a) Unless otherwise specified, the diameter of each parsnip shall be not less than 1-1/2 inches. The maximum diameter of the parsnips in any lot may be specified in terms of inches and quarter inches, in accordance with the facts.

(b) **Tolerances.** In order to allow for variations incident to proper grading and handling, the following tolerances, by weight, are provided as specified:

(1) **For defects.** Ten percent for parsnips in any lot which fail to meet the requirements of this grade, including therein not more than 1 percent for parsnips affected by soft rot or wet breakdown.

(2) **For size.** Five percent for parsnips in any lot which fail to meet the specified minimum diameter and 10 percent for parsnips which fail to meet any specified maximum diameter.

Unclassified

§51.4012 Unclassified.

"Unclassified" consists of parsnips which have not been classified in accordance with any of the foregoing grades. The term "unclassified" is not a grade within the meaning of these standards but is provided as a designation to show that no grade has been applied to the lot.

Application of Tolerances

§51.4013 Application of tolerances.

The contents of individual packages in the lot, are subject to the following limitations:

(a) For a tolerance of 10 percent or more, individual packages in any lot shall have not more than one and one-half times the tolerance specified: **Provided**, That at least one defective and one off-size specimen may be permitted in any package: **And provided further**, That the average for the entire lot is within the tolerance specified.

(b) For a tolerance of less than 10 percent, individual packages in any lot shall have not more than double the tolerance specified: **Provided**, That at least one defective and one off-size specimen may be permitted in any package: **And provided further**, That the average for the entire lot is within the tolerance specified.

Definitions

§51.4014 Well trimmed.

"Well trimmed" means that the tops shall be cut back to within 3/4 inch from the crown of the parsnip; except that occasional uncut leaves or leafstems or new top growth exceeding this length which does not materially damage the appearance of the lot shall be permitted.

§51.4015 Fairly well formed.

"Fairly well formed" means that the parsnip is not turnip shaped or so forked or misshapen as to materially affect its appearance or cause a loss of more than 5 percent, by weight, in the ordinary preparation for use.

§51.4016 Fairly smooth.

"Fairly smooth" means that the parsnip is not rough, ridged, or covered with secondary roots to an extent which materially affects its appearance or causes a loss of more than 5 percent, by weight, in the ordinary preparation for use.

§51.4017 Fairly clean.

"Fairly clean" means that individual parsnips are reasonably free from dirt, stain, or other foreign matter, and that the general appearance of the parsnips in the lot is not more than slightly affected by these causes.

§51.4018 Fairly firm.

"Fairly firm" means that the parsnip is not soft, materially flabby, or shriveled.

§51.4019 Damage.

"Damage" means any defect, or any combination of defects, which materially detracts from the appearance, or the edible or marketing quality of the individual parsnip, or the parsnips in the lot; or which causes a loss of more than 5 percent, by weight, of the parsnip in the ordinary preparation for use.

§51.4020 Badly misshapen.

"Badly misshapen" means that the parsnip is so badly crooked, twisted, forked, or otherwise so misshapen as to seriously affect its appearance or cause a loss of more than 10 percent, by weight, of the parsnip in the ordinary preparation for use.

§51.4021 Serious damage.

"Serious damage" means any defect, or any combination of defects, which seriously detracts from the appearance, or the edible or marketing quality of the individual parsnip or the parsnips in the lot; or which causes a loss of more than 10 percent, by weight, of the parsnip in the ordinary preparation for use.

§51.4022 Diameter.

"Diameter" means the greatest dimension of the parsnip measured at right angles to the longitudinal axis.